

The Washington Post PewResearchCenter

This poll was conducted for The Washington Post and the Pew Research Center by telephone June 6 to 9, 2013, among a random national sample of 1,004 adults, including users of both conventional and cellular phones.

The results from the full survey have a margin of sampling error of plus or minus 3.5 percentage points. Questions asked on June 7 to 9 are based on 743 interviews with an error margin of 4.5 percentage points.

Sampling, data collection and tabulation by Princeton Survey Research Associates International (PSRAI) of Princeton, NJ. Produced for the Washington Post by Capital Insight.

*= less than 0.5 percent



1. As I read a list of some stories covered by news organizations this past week, please tell me if you happened to follow each news story very closely, fairly closely, not too closely, or not at all closely.

b. The government collecting records about Verizon phone calls for national security purposes

	----- Closely -----			----- Less Closely -----			No
	NET	Very	Fairly	NET	Not too	Not at all	opinion
6/9/13	49	27	21	52	17	35	*

c. The government collecting emails and other online activities directly from large internet companies to track foreign suspects in terror investigations

	----- Closely -----			----- Less Closely -----			No
	NET	Very	Fairly	NET	Not too	Not at all	opinion
6/9/13*	49	26	24	50	17	33	1

*Item c. only asked June 7 to 9, 2013.

Questions 2 through 7 held for release.

8. What do you think is more important right now - (for the federal government to investigate possible terrorist threats, even if that intrudes on personal privacy); or (for the federal government not to intrude on personal privacy, even if that limits its ability to investigate possible terrorist threats)?

	Investigate threats	Don't intrude on privacy	No opinion
6/9/13	62	34	4
11/21/10	68	26	6
1/15/10	75	23	2
12/11/06	63	34	3
9/7/06	65	32	3
5/15/06	67	30	3
5/11/06	65	31	4
1/8/06	65	32	3
9/7/03*	73	21	5
9/8/02	78	18	4



6/9/02 79 18 3
 *9/7/03 and previous: "FBI" rather than "federal government"

9. As you may know, it has been reported that the National Security Agency has been getting secret court orders to track telephone call records of MILLIONS of Americans in an effort to investigate terrorism. Would you consider this access to telephone call records an acceptable or unacceptable way for the federal government to investigate terrorism?

	----- Acceptable -----			----- Unacceptable -----			No
	NET	Strongly	Somewhat	NET	Somewhat	Strongly	opin.
6/9/13	56	30	26	41	14	27	2

Compare to:

On another subject: as you may know, the National Security Agency has been investigating people suspected of involvement with terrorism by secretly listening in on telephone calls and reading e-mails between some people in the United States and other countries, without first getting court approval to do so. Would you consider this wiretapping of telephone calls and e-mails without court approval as an acceptable or unacceptable way for the federal government to investigate terrorism? Do you feel that way strongly or somewhat?

	----- Acceptable -----			----- Unacceptable -----			No
	NET	Strongly	Somewhat	NET	Somewhat	Strongly	opin.
3/5/06	54	39	15	46	13	32	*
1/26/06	56	38	17	43	10	33	1
1/8/06	51	35	15	47	14	33	2

10. Do you think the U.S. government should be able to monitor everyone's email and other online activities if officials say this might prevent future terrorist attacks?

	Yes	No	No opinion
6/9/13*	45	52	3
7/26/02**	45	47	8

*Asked June 7 to 9, 2013.

**Pew Internet and American Life

*** END ***